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The Hongkong Telegraph

THURSDAY, JULY 31, 1947.

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SECURITY COUNCIL TO DISCUSS INDONESIAN SITUATION

Reducing British Army

Faster Demobilisation

London, July 30.—The Secretary for War, Mr. F. J. Bellenger, tonight denied in the House of Commons rumours that Field Marshal Lord Montgomery, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, was flying home to Britain from New Zealand to make drastic cuts in Britain's armed forces to provide more men for the undermanned industries.

Field Marshal Montgomery is coming home on his own initiative, he said. He understood that he would arrive in Britain on August 8. Mr. Bellenger also announced a reduction in the Army by speeding up demobilisation. It would affect the Regular Army which consists of volunteers, but 48,000 more wartime officers and men would be demobilised in the last quarter of this year than was originally intended.

The Secretary for War explained that in the first quarter of next year, there would be "still further acceleration of the rate of release" without prejudice to the maintenance of those commitments considered vital.

Something like a 100,000 servicemen would be enlisted next year and about 250,000 officers and men released during that period.

Mr. Anthony Eden of the Conservative Opposition had emphasised that if the strength of the Regular Army was allowed to fall behind, there would be a shortage of men to train the conscript army.

INSUFFICIENT PAY
His complaint that one of the drawbacks was the insufficient pay for warrant officers and non-commissioned officers was acknowledged by Mr. Bellenger, who described the recruiting position as "serious," but said that even if the pay was increased by 50 per cent, the Regular Army was still competing with industry, and men were looking for civilian life, not the army.

After announcing the increased rate of release, Mr. Bellenger said that the Regular Army, for which there would have to be increased recruiting, would be rolled upon for overseas service at all stations except Europe and perhaps places like Gibraltar, Malta, Trieste and Cyprus.

It might be a good thing to send conscripts to those parts of the Commonwealth, he suggested.

The figure of 250,000 had been mentioned as the Government's target for the Regulars, he continued, but he anticipated that it would probably be about 20,000 or 30,000 less than that when fully 15 years to rebuild and reform army barracks.

(Continued on Page 4)

Coal Output Discussions

London, July 30.—Leading Cabinet Ministers today met miners' leaders and National Coal Board officials for a "full and frank discussion" of ways and means of increasing Britain's vital coal output.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Bevin, the Lord President of the Council, Mr. Morrison, the Minister of Fuel and Power, Mr. Shawcross, and the Minister of Labour, Mr. Bevan, talked for three hours with Mr. Will Lawther, President of the National Union of Mineworkers, Mr. J. Bowman, Vice-President, and Mr. Arthur Horner, General Secretary, and Lord Hynod, Chairman of the National Coal Board.

Representatives both of the Board and of the Union, made it clear that it was their desire and intention to make every possible contribution towards increasing production, an official announcement declared.

It was reported in London tonight that Mr. Attlee suggested voluntary extra half-hours of work a day as a temporary measure to overcome the crisis.

It is understood, however, that the Prime Minister made it clear that there was no question of suspending the miners' five-day week granted on May 1 this year.—Reuter.

ATTLEE'S PROGRAMME

London, July 30.—A well-informed source today said the Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, told the Labour Party caucus today that the Government had decided to cut dollar imports drastically, to speed up demobilisation of the armed forces, and divert still more production to exports.

His announcement revealed that the Government had decided to impose far greater than wartime austerity on this ration-weary, dollar-poor island as the only means of preventing an economic and industrial catastrophe next winter.

The extent of Mr. Attlee's programme, in face of earlier indications that Government had decided upon a "wait and see" attitude, staggered rank and file Parliamentary members, whose expected opposition at the caucus to the Cabinet's conduct almost completely melted away.—United Press.

Will Be Treated As A Matter Of Urgency

Lake Success, N.Y. July 31.—Oscar Lange of Poland, president of the United Nations Security Council ordered an immediate hearing on the Indonesian question which was laid before the Council on Wednesday by Australia and India.

Lange put the case on the Council's provisional agenda for Thursday afternoon's meeting, previously scheduled on the Balkan question. The Council itself will decide which issue gets priority.

United Nations officials said they were prepared to schedule the Council's first night session on Thursday night to take up either of the issues, if the Council decided this was desirable. The Australian and Indian delegations, acting almost simultaneously, told the Council the strife between the Dutch and Indonesian forces threatened world peace.

Lange declared the case would be treated "as a matter of urgency" which would permit action without the normal three-day delay. Besides the Indonesian and Balkan cases, the Council is committed to take up Egypt's complaint against Britain next Tuesday.—Associated Press.

BRITISH DECISION

Batavia, July 30.—India and Australia have both referred the Dutch-Indonesian conflict—ten days after the start of the Java fighting—to the United Nations Security Council, while the British Government have suspended all military supplies and facilities to the Netherlands authorities in the Far East.

Announcing the latest British decision in the House of Commons tonight, the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, said that the suspension applied to military supplies and facilities from Singapore and British territories in the Far East, including training facilities.

"No supplies of war material intended for the Netherlands East Indies will be permitted from this country," he said.

Mr. Bevin said that there had been no request from Holland for British aid in Indonesia. He made it clear that the British offer of mediation remained open.

Answering criticism why it was left to India and Australia to refer the matter to the United Nations, Mr. Bevin said that to do so but it was difficult for him to mediate and refer the matter to the United Nations at the same time.

Australia's Prime Minister, Mr. Joseph Chifley, said in Canberra today that his government's decision to invoke for the first time Article 39 of the United Nations Charter, dealing with acts of aggression and the restoration of international peace.

"It is the government's hope that not only will hostilities cease but the Council will quickly and effectively deal with this situation of this kind," Mr. Chifley said.

LE HAGUE "SURPRISED"
A Dutch Foreign Office spokesman at the Hague expressed regret and surprise at the Australian decision.

By referring the question under Chapter Seven (Article 39) of the Charter—which deals with another action of one state against another—"the Australian Government holds the inaccurate view that the Republic is a sovereign state," the spokesman said.

In Batavia, the Dutch claimed a 38-mile advance south of Medan, capital of Sumatra, and the occupation of Lubuklinggau and Telukragina.

The Dutch also claimed to have occupied Kaliguru, 15 miles west of Semarang, on Java's central north coast.

From Jogjakarta (Republican capital) an Indonesian communiqué tonight claimed that Dutch warships and planes were alternately shelling and bombing Java's main south coast port of Tjilatjap.

Observers predicted an early Dutch landing near this port, and attempt to link up with a Dutch column advancing south from recently captured Tegal, thus cutting the island in two, the communiqué added.

The Republicans reported earlier that Dutch planes also raided Nopandjen, 12 miles south of Malang, in east central Java, and Dutch infantry supported by artillery took Kaliguru, on the east central coast.

Republican air attacks on Dutch positions in Semarang and at Salatiga and Ambarrukmo, in central Java, gave satisfactory results, the communiqué added.

STATE FUNERAL
The Jogjakarta radio said tonight that the bodies of the blue victims of the Dakota plane shot down near Jogjakarta airfield yesterday, were laid in a row of rough wooden coffins covered by their national flag, to await a state funeral this afternoon.

in the presence of Dr. Amir Shariuddin, Republican Prime Minister.

The Union Jacks, covering the coffins of the four British victims, were improvised in haste locally for the occasion. The Indonesians were buried with full Moslem rites.

The embalmed bodies of the four British victims—including the wife of the pilot—are being kept in Jogjakarta, pending an answer from the British Consul-General the report said.

A Dutch communiqué about the Dakota plane, which was shot down, said that the Dutch planes fired only a warning salvo, after which the Dakota crashed.

Dutch airmen told correspondents that the Dakota crashed into trees, diving from 5,000 feet in evasive action without being hit by the guns of the pursuing planes.

"The airmen, Lieutenant B. J. Ruesink, aged 27, and Sergeant Major W. E. Erkelens, 28, both squadrons with the Royal Australian Air Force during the Pacific war, were on the Dakota," said.

"I was convinced that it was a Japanese-type bomber, such as we have over Semarang on the same day. I saw all the explosive bullets from my burst hitting around."

The plane dived from 5,000 feet, and must have been travelling at 350 miles an hour, skimming the tree-tops. When it crashed, its tail, in flames, flew 75 feet into the air, which made me think that it must have been carrying ammunition."

URGENT SITUATION
At Lake Success today, Australia requested the calling immediately of a special meeting of the United Nations Security Council to consider the Indonesian issue.

The Australian delegate, Colonel William Hodgson, formally filed a complaint shortly after a similar note had been submitted by the Indian delegation.

Colonel Hodgson said that the situation was "urgent" and appealed to the Council President, Dr. Oscar Lange of Poland, to call an immediate meeting of the Security Council for consideration of this complaint, including this item, be communicated to the representatives on the Security Council simultaneously with a notice of the meeting.

It is reported that the Indonesian question will be the first item on the agenda when the Security Council meets at Lake Success at 7 p.m. (GMT) tomorrow.

Dr. E. N. van Kleffens, Dutch Ambassador to the United States, at Washington tonight, claimed that both India and Australia had overstepped the jurisdiction of the United Nations Charter, in putting the Indonesian problem before the Security Council.

Dr. van Kleffens insisted that the Indonesian dispute was not one between sovereign states and therefore the complaints were "unfounded."

AUSTRALIAN ACTION
Mr. Chifley, the Prime Minister, announced at Canberra today that the Australian Government had instructed its representative on the Security Council to draw the Council's attention to the situation in Indonesia under Article 39 of the United Nations Charter.

"Australia has taken this action in accordance with Article 33 of the Charter, parties to any dispute are obliged to seek a solution by negotiation or mediation," he declared.

"Strenuous attempts have been made in consultation with other

In An Exclusive Interview, the Telegraph Discovers

Lady Grantham's Chief Hobbies Are Interior Decoration & Gardening

Government House is due for a face-lifting in the hands of the Colony's new First Lady, charming, petite and energetic Lady Grantham. Interior decorating is a major hobby with the new tenant, she told the Hongkong Telegraph on Wednesday.

Britain To Tap Gold Reserves

London, July 30.—Britain is expected to tap her gold reserves—the biggest in the world, outside the United States—to bridge the gap between the exhaustion of the American dollar loan, which is fast running out, and the beginning of the operation of the Marshall plan for economic aid to Europe.

This can stave off the approaching economic crisis for only a brief additional period, however, it was emphasised in London today.

It has been stated unofficially in many quarters that the tapping of the gold stock seems inevitable. There was an official intimation of it, "off the record," on July 15, when sterling became convertible.

Britain appears to have augmented her hidden reserve of gold and hard currency as some offset to excessive drawings on the American loan.

In official quarters in London today, however, it was doubtful whether during 1947 this had even replaced the US\$200,000,000 of gold which Britain transferred to the International Monetary Fund last February.

Consequently, by the time the dollar loan is exhausted, this British reserve may be no bigger than the last published figures. These showed a reserve of US\$2,500,000,000 by the end of 1946, of which more than three-quarters was believed to be in gold.—Reuter.

Irgun's Cruel War Of Nerves

Jerusalem, July 30.—The Irgun underground today caught all of Palestine in its most effective and cruel war of nerves with an announcement that the two British Army Sergeant hostages had been hanged from trees in the government forest on the Sharon coastal plain but the bodies were not found.

However, the consensus of opinion in the Holy Land is that the two Britons are probably dead.

The Palestine Public Relations Officer, Richard Stubbs, announced that the police deny that the bodies of the two sergeants have been found.

The Irgun announcement said the three Irgunists by the British yesterday, but were killed in normal legal action, which it would take against British forces in future.

The announcement threw high British officials and the Jewish Agency into the greatest confusion yet in the Holy Land's long war of

Hongkong's First Lady

The camera caught this pleasant study of Lady Grantham as she was being interviewed by the Telegraph yesterday. Story appears below.—Photo, Ming Yuen.



Photo, Ming Yuen.

Lady Grantham's Chief Hobbies Are Interior Decoration & Gardening

Government House is due for a face-lifting in the hands of the Colony's new First Lady, charming, petite and energetic Lady Grantham. Interior decorating is a major hobby with the new tenant, she told the Hongkong Telegraph on Wednesday.

Although she and her husband have been back in Hongkong less than a week, Lady Grantham already is busy on plans to make the official residence a more pleasant home and a more beautiful centre of Colony activities. She brings to the job a wealth of experience for she "did over" government houses in Nigeria and Fiji when Sir Alexander administered those areas.

Lady Grantham likes white and pastels for home interiors. Her taste in furnishings runs to the "moderately modern," and she likes to combine the best features of old and new things in planning her homes.

Every phase of housekeeping is enjoyed by the First Lady, who confessed she had to be "methodical, or I couldn't get everything done," and talked of the differences between the Hongkong of today and the Colony as she knew it in the decade from 1925 to 1935.

"My husband and I have always been fond of China and the Chinese," she said.

"As for Hongkong, it's our spiritual home. We both feel really happy and content to find ourselves here again."

PLANS THE MENUS
She does her own menu planning, consults daily with the chief servants and keeps a watchful eye on public rooms as well as the couple's own quarters. Nothing about the huge house escapes her attention.

"I must do something about the garden," she exclaimed as the Telegraph photographer was taking her picture beside the fountain. "It needs a lot of attention." And she promptly made an appointment to confer with the head gardener today.

Although her days are "very busy," Lady Grantham is thoroughly happy to be in Hongkong.

"I had my first lessons in house-keeping here," she recalled. "It's like coming home to be back—even though it's a different kind of house-keeping this time."

She first came to the Colony as a bride. She and Sir Alexander were married at the Cathedral here on October 28, 1925, and had their first home in Alburgh Hall, which

is visible from their present residence. The couple met in Peking and were introduced by his mother. Sir Alexander was on holiday from his studies as a government cadet, and his future wife was an American tourist.

TOO LONG TO WAIT
"He wasn't due for leave for two years," Lady Grantham related with a smile. "We thought that was too long to wait to be married. So I went home, persuaded my people it was all right, and came to Hongkong eight months later where we were married."

Lady Grantham has blue-grey eyes, light brown hair, and is very small, measuring only 4 feet, 10 inches in height. She was born in San Francisco, educated in private schools, and had travelled extensively before she met her future husband.

Perched on the edge of a big chair, she discussed her two hobbies, of interior decoration and gardening, confessed she had to be "methodical, or I couldn't get everything done," and talked of the differences between the Hongkong of today and the Colony as she knew it in the decade from 1925 to 1935.

"My husband and I have always been fond of China and the Chinese," she said.

"As for Hongkong, it's our spiritual home. We both feel really happy and content to find ourselves here again."

THERANGOON BLOOD BATH

London, July 30.—Thirty assassins responsible for the deaths in Rangoon of U Aung San, former Deputy Chairman of the Burmese Executive Council and several of his colleagues, are believed by the Burmese Government to be among those arrested in Burma.

This was announced in Parliament today by Prime Minister Clement Attlee, who said that the Burmese Government also believed the assassinations were part of a plot to overthrow the Government.

Giving details of the plot, Mr. Attlee disclosed that the assassins got their arms and ammunition from the Burmese Base Ordnance Depot at the end of June, and from the Army Ammunition Depot on July 12. They were stolen by individuals posing as Civil Police and carrying forged documents.

The identity of the assassins and the origin and ramifications of the outrage were still under investigation. The situation at the moment was "quiet and under control."

Mr. Attlee declared that most of the stolen arms had been recovered and that the officer in charge of the depot from which they were stolen had been relieved of this post.

(Continued on Page 4)

EDITORIAL

Crisis In Britain

HE would be a thoughtful, shallow person who dismissed the latest political, economic and financial situation confronting Britain, with a wave of the hand. From this distance, and with the meagre information available, it is not easy to focus a true perspective, but a number of items add up to a single answer—that Britain is facing a deadly serious crisis. Some of the items are: Field Marshal Montgomery rushing back to England from a world tour only half completed, to try and save his standing army from being cut to ribbons; Britain is likely to surrender most of her military influence in the western zone of Germany because she needs those troops for more urgent domestic uses; the attempt by the Prime Minister to "play ball" with the Conservative opposition on the question of conscription, and the retention of substantial, peace-time fighting forces has failed—he is about to concede to the pressure which has long been put on him by his left-wing supporters; Britain is not only financially bankrupt, short of food and other essentials, but has not yet started to produce and export sufficiently to make good the adverse balance sheet; she is carrying out an experiment in socialisation of a most unfavourable time, creating such contradictions as a 40-hour week when production demands require longer

working hours; introducing social legislation intended to bring better health and more contentment when the country faces the prospect of less food, less fuel, less light, less clothing and fewer of the amenities considered necessary for happy living. Politically, there are all the signs of dramatic developments. A Government so firmly established by an unassailable majority in the House of Commons appears to be on the verge, not only of a high ministerial shake-up, but possibly of calling a general election. Against such a background it is easy to sense the desperate need for action that will restore the nation's equilibrium. A great deal of Britain's plight today can be traced to natural causes—an aftermath of the war in which, as co-victims, the country is saddled with responsibilities too heavy for her to carry. The unvarnished truth is that Britain can no longer afford to surrender essential goods and money to help other people; neither can she afford to keep expensive armies in trouble spots such as Palestine and Western Germany when, within these ranks are skilled men required to step up home production. The gamble offered the Home Government is the withdrawing of skilled personnel from the military forces and making the best use of them at this time against the possibility of another war before the country can regain its economic and financial feet.

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"FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS"
IN TECHNICOLOR!CENTURIES OF PERSECUTION AND
TORTURE COULD NOT SHAKE THE
FAITH OF THESE JAPANESE CHRISTIANS**THEY DEFIED THE
KEMPEITAI**

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

THROUGH 300 years of Japanese feudalism and militarism, sometimes in face of physical torture, the people of Kurojima, a small island 4 miles off the coast of Kyushu, have held to their Christian faith.

And it is only 20 miles from atom-bombed Nagasaki, which is the principal city in Kyushu.

Kurojima has a coastline of only eight miles, but 97 percent of its 2,300 inhabitants are Christians. They have been for centuries.

First thing that impresses the visitor to Kurojima is the magnificent brick church on top of the island's highest hill. If you visit the island on a Sunday you will hear, from the ferry wharf, the stirring echoes of Christian hymns sung in Latin.

Peeping through the Gothic windows of the church you will see hundreds of Christian Japanese sitting, Japanese fashion, before the altar. In the dim light you will see the white veils of the girls calmly swinging as they bow before the figure of Christ.

Number 2,000,000

CHRISTIANS in Japan are expected soon to number 2,000,000, most of them, however, converts since the war's end.

But the Kurojima islanders—the island is called by the Japanese "Kirisitanjima"—Christian Island—have been Christians since 1549, when the Spanish missionary Francisco Xavier brought Christianity to Japan. And in the intervening centuries they have held to the faith even under pain of torture and death.

When Xavier visited Japan, the generalissimo of Japan's war lords, Nobunaga Oda, warmly welcomed him—but beneath his welcome was a selfish intent to use the growing Christian community to clip the wings of the Buddhist centered at Kyoto. They were becoming too powerful for him to control.

There was nothing but sincerity, however, in the Japanese common people's acceptance of the Christian religion. Tired of the intangible Sanskrit prayers of their Buddhist masters, they found the Christian prayers easy to understand, the ceremony "impressively solemn," the priests virtuous and erudite. The priests were able to explain to them the mysteries of astronomy and chemistry, sciences until then unknown in Japan.

Forty years after Xavier and his missionaries arrived there were 260 Christian churches and 300 foreign priests in Japan. The followers of Christianity at that time included many daimyos (lords) and samurais (warriors). There were about 300,000 followers in all.

At the peak of Christianity's development in Japan one-eyed Masamune Date, Christian daimyo, sent a goodwill mission of 75 Christian samurais to the Vatican in 1600. The mission was received with great ceremony by King Philip III at Madrid on June 30, 1615, and by Paul V in the Vatican on October 28 of the same year.

These men were the first Japanese to visit the West. But while they were still there the Japanese Government suddenly banned Christianity in their homeland.

Outlawed

GENERAL Hideyoshi, who succeeded Nobunaga, and who, like Nobunaga, had first welcomed the Christian priests, outlawed them and all their works throughout Japan.

His reason: A Dutch sea captain told him the priests were soldiers in disguise, plotting to seize Japan. Previously, Hideyoshi's attitude to Christianity had already cooled because a young Japanese Christian girl had refused his advances.

Hideyoshi's ban was put ruthlessly into force. The missionaries were ordered out of Japan, converts were forced to renounce the faith, churches were destroyed. But still the people clung to Christianity. Secret masses were held, outlawed priests were sheltered in Japanese homes.

Enraged, Hideyoshi invented cruel tortures for the Christians. Those found by his soldiers were ordered, under pain of death, to walk across a huge bronze portrait of Christ. Most refused, and were beheaded on the spot.

Other tortures were invented in an effort to extract confessions of Christianity—ears and noses sliced off, crucifixion on the Cross or death on a pyre.

About 2,000 Japanese died cruel deaths at the warlord's hands, and then those who still refused to renounce their faith rallied under the leadership of handsome, talented Shiro Masuda—a youth of 16—and fought a desperate battle against the warlord's soldiers at Arima, near Nagasaki. For two months 38,000 Christian zealots, barricaded in Fort Arima, fought off the besieging army, which, constantly reinforced, eventually numbered 124,000. The battle ended when Masuda led his men in a suicidal attack in which 3,000 of the enemy were killed and 9,000 injured. But Masuda's losses were disastrous. Twenty-eight thousand were killed. The remaining 10,000 were captured and the battle was over. That Japan's rulers decided, was the end of Christianity in Japan. But they were wrong. That day in 1637 marked the birth of the Christian colony on Kurojima.

Broke Through

IN the confusion of the battle at Arima about 200 Christians managed to break through the enemy lines. Two days later, battered, hungry, they reached Kurojima, four miles off shore, on rafts.

But the trials of the Faithful were by no means ended. Suspicious government troops frequently visited the island from the mainland in an effort to catch the Christians at prayer. But they never caught them. Neither did they find the vestments of the church.

The altar pieces were there, right before the eyes of the searchers yet cunningly concealed.

The Christians had installed miniature Buddhist altars in their homes. But in a false bottom of the altar each kept a portrait of the Virgin. Like the Buddhists, they carried with them in the fields wooden statues of Buddha. But so small as to be seen only on the closest of scrutiny there was a garland of thorns around the Buddha's head. The Kurojima islanders also bought tiny porcelain statues of Buddha from China, because some of them held, like the statues of the Virgin Mary, babes in their arms. Also, the islanders reported each death among them as a drowning while fishing, held secret Christian burial services, thus avoiding the Buddhist cremation.

200 Years After

SO, for 200 years or more, the Kurojima islanders remained the only Christians in Japan. For all that time they prayed for the day when they might openly worship—faithful through 10 or 12 generations of Christians whose every Christian move was made by stealth.

Two hundred years after their colony was founded their dream came true. In the middle of the 19th Century, in 1859, Iyeshige, the 14th Tokugawa generalissimo, his power already weakened by the visits of foreign warships, signed a temporary trade pact with many Western Powers, including Russia, France, America, Great Britain and Holland.

Two French priests, Fathers Brugiere and Imbert, were given permission by Iyeshige to build a

church in Nagasaki "for the sake of foreign residents." Construction of this church was finished in February, 1865.

Prime intention of the fathers and other priests who joined them was to find if any remained of the Christians which historians said had once been so zealous in Japan. They did not hope in vain. A month after they opened the church, 15 Kurojima (Continued on Page 3)

AT MICHAEL HOUSE, Baker-street, W.1, London, Sir Simon Marks (son of the founder of the Marks and Spencer "Penny Bazaar") recently made his yearly report to shareholders. Total profit for the year is £2,209,672.

"MRS SPENCER?" echoed the old Yorkshireman at the corner of the lane, three miles from Middlesbrough. "You'll find her down there in the house with the three chimneys, New Grove's, the name—but you won't see it on the gate. They've just been burning the paint off."

I passed the little church school where Captain Cook found geography a little easier because his teacher had not heard of Australia, walked under the arched trees past the detached houses of prosperous doctors, retired grocers.

The maid took my card and a slightly built old lady in a brown housecoat came to the door, took off gold-rimmed spectacles and said: "I'm Mrs. Spencer. Yes—my husband started the business with Mr. Michael Marks."

THROUGH THE YEARS

She could hardly believe I had come 240 miles from London to the village of Marton, Yorks, just to see her.

She said: "It's no use if I say you're not disturbing me, because you are. I've got a lot of little things to do about the house. See Sir Simon. He's a nice man—he was a nice little boy, too."

But she was thinking back through her 88 years from the loneliness of Marton to the full, exciting Victorian days when young Mrs. Agnes Spencer and young Mrs. Hannah Marks watched their husbands bring something new into the gas-lit

**The Widow Spencer's
£500,000 Memories**

By James Bartlett

shopping centres of the North. She said: "I can't tell you anything. In any case, I'm not going to. But come back after lunch if you like..."

SOAP AND COMBS

The argument against chain stores these days is that they take trade away from the local small shopkeepers and invest the profits somewhere else. But when Michael Marks went to England from Poland in 1884 and hired a stall to sell soap, sponges, brushes and combs in Leeds Market Hall, he had no idea that some day there would be more than 6,000 shareholders drawing a total yearly dividend of 60 per cent. on the outcome of his enterprise.

The slight, sensitive salesman worked hard, selling his goods on hired stalls and barrows in Northern towns under the slogan: "The price is one penny."

It was there that Tom Spencer took a liking to him. And Michael Marks got on well, too, with this bluff, burly Yorkshire sales manager of a textile firm in Leeds.

They agreed to go into partnership and in 1894 with £400 of Michael's and £300 of Tom's, the firm of Marks and Spencer was formed to acquire store sites in Northern industrial towns and spread the penny bazaar idea.

They were rich men in six years. Reluctantly, like any Yorkshireman going to Lancashire, Tom and Agnes Spencer moved their home from Leeds to Manchester, where Michael and Hannah Marks lived over the firm's first warehouse.

In 1907, Michael Marks died, leaving his son, Simon, to carry on the business. Tom Spencer had died eighteen months before.

Mrs. Spencer, in a black ankle-length dress with peeping white frilled collar, sat in the large living

room by the brown-plush covered table. On the walls are pictures of regimental uniforms. There is a gleaming brass warming pan by the door.

Over the roll-top desk is a large, framed sepia portrait of her husband, Tom Spencer. A glass sideboard reflects the garden's lawn and the firs and bushes that hide it from the lane.

"I'm tired of seeing greenery," said Mrs. Spencer, when I went to see her. "Just beyond those trees is a house. I only see it at Christmas when the trees are bare." She rubbed her hand, to ease its rheumatism, stared quizzically at me and said: "It's 42 years since Mr. Spencer died and here I still am. I suppose there's some purpose in it."

[In those 42 years, a score of penny bazaars has grown into 236 branches; Marks and Spencer's frehold and leasehold property is worth nearly £8,000,000.]

FEELS THE COAL
She smiled quickly, crowsfeet showing round her eyes, then asked me if I had any children. She said: "I like children. I'm very fond of them. But how different they are today! They're much more forward than they used to be. You have to keep your wits about you to keep up with them."

She gets up at half-past seven, normally finishes breakfast soon after eight, then patters about the house busily keeping everything spotless. She feels the cold, gets three cwt. of coal a month. "I suppose I can't have more if it's not there—but I almost have to count the pieces."

She says: "You know, it's very hard for old people to manage—especially when we can't get out. And, of course, when you've been used to a good table, it's very hard to get used to the food we have now."

The woman whose name stands out in gold or silver letters from the fronts of more than 200 stores said: "No hawkers come out here, you know. It's such a pity. We don't get any fish."

[Sir Simon Marks states: "All the material requirements of our circulation are short in supply, and heavy in demand. The nation is hungry for them..."]

HAPPY MEMORY

The last time Mrs. Spencer went into a Marks and Spencer store was in 1929. "I used to go to all the shareholders' meetings." With nearly 140,000 shares—having a market value of half a million pounds—she is ninth largest shareholder. "I remember going to London with my husband to see the Jubilee. It was very colourful. We had a window near St Paul's." That was in 1887, shortly before her husband came to know the little stallholder from Poland.

Mrs. Spencer stopped talking of the past. She said: "Your readers won't be interested. We don't want to look back. Keep looking forward..."

In the hall, as she shook hands she asked: "Are you soaring—are you ambitious?" I said no, not particularly. "I've got a contented mind."

She said: "Well, what else can you want really? So long as you're enough to be comfortable. But mind you—whatever a man does...he needs a good wife."

Then she went back to sit near Tom Spencer's picture.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

A PLEA for the "Internationalisation of Simplified Spelling" makes one wonder whether the English would have to pronounce Brno in the Czech fashion, or whether the Czechs would have to pronounce it in the English fashion.

A third possibility is that an International Council of Non-Phonetics would make a compromise and that something like Bruncsch would emerge. Anyhow, before we internationalise spelling we must internationalise it. No Aye heap it keepz fein four, thilch riltormurz.

Back to 1938

A FEW bars whistled in the street and I was back under the Lautaret, watching the Chasseurs Alpins swing by; their small, dark, man who march though they were about to break into a charge at any

moment. "Les Chasseurs Alpins arrivent, arrivent..." It was at the manoeuvres of 1938. I just saw them, and last saw the terrible glacier of the Melje, and lingered in happy Bourg d'Oisans. The whistling ceased, and there were no Chasseurs Alpins, but I went about my business exhilarated, and humming the marching-song all day.

Cocklecarrot on

four-way registration

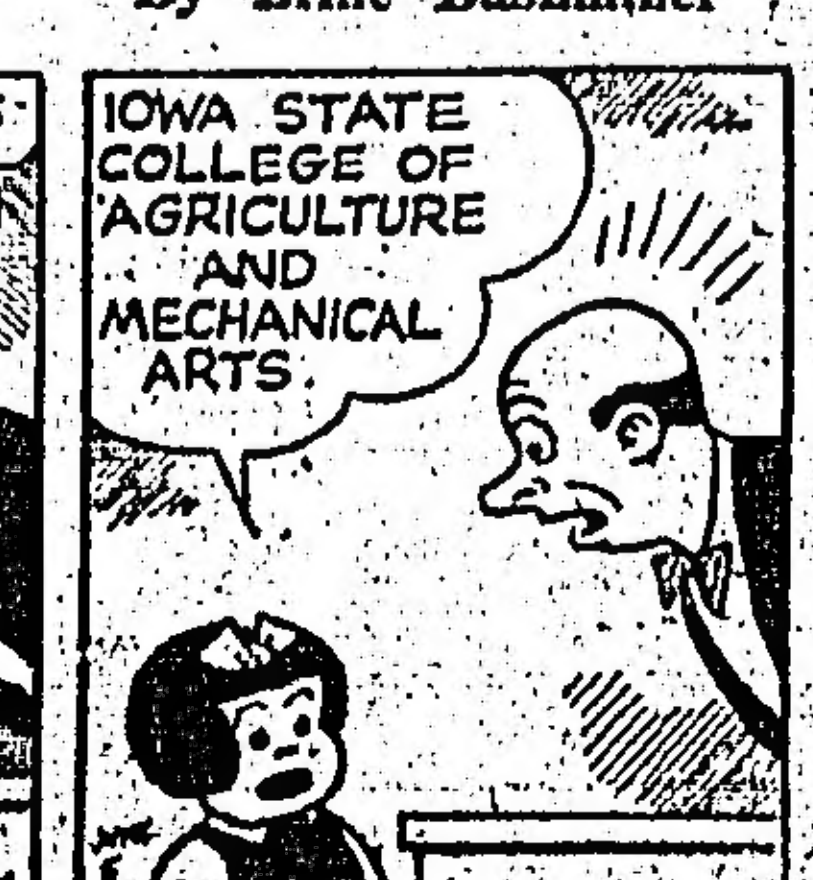
IS four-way registration illegal? Asked to give a ruling Mr Justice Cocklecarrot said: "That which is prescribed by specification in so far as it applies or does not apply to the usual mode of registration for licence or permit, which is limited in its application to a contract of acceptance may be said to cover the bona fide interpretation of responsibilities when licences of right are included for endorsement in any

schedule of mutual negotiation, where infringement would result, per se, in a contravention of the provisional agreement to proceed without prejudice to any previous or subsequent renewal of the conditions obtaining at the time of the application.

In passing

TWO pieces of news from the scientists:
1 Hiroshima and Nagasaki may have shifted the earth's axis, and wrecked our weather for some millions of years.
2 Radio-active particles are still swirling round the world, with unpredictable results. Is there no plan to shift the earth's axis back the other way by further massacres, and to counter the errant particles by losing something even beaustier into the upper air?

NANCY About Bedsheet Size

When You Feel Tired
and Restless

Ask For

ELLIOTTS

TONIC

On Sale at All Dispensaries



Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Dorothy Lamour for Lois Leeds.

Individual styles and Hollywood notes can be adapted by you!

STAR SHINE!

Dorothy Lamour, Paramount Pictures star, wears a band of pearls around her loosely arranged hair-do. It is a charming style for home with a very feminine housecoat.

Colour Notes: What's good in colour? A Hollywood designer likes the subtle shades, the monotonies and the dramatic effects created, not by colour, but by lack of colour. Gray, so popular this season, is a favourite.

An afternoon suit worn by Claire Trevor, of "Born to Kill," is of Dave-Gray tissue wool, cut on a bias line, the skirt and sleeves very full, a row of tiny self-buttons marching up the jacket front. With accessories in gray, pumps of Gray suede and a small hat with a white veil.

Gray again, Mist-Gray this time, is used for another Claire Trevor suit of gabardine. Slim, simple, straight, the suit jacket has one large ruffle lapel over to create a high, snug neckline. An original touch, the shoulder-bag, made of the suit fabric, fits the shoulder like a glove, or to be more correct, like an epaulet, and it is trimmed with bold Golden nailheads.

Hollywood Fashion Notes! Betty Hutton seen lunching in Hollywood in a Black suit with interesting sleeve detail. The sleeves were balloon push-ups, striped in shocking pink. The suit had a turtle-neck crepe blouse of shocking pink to add colour interest. The jacket was short, with a slight poplin, with



Don't just say Good Looks—You can have your share! But do something to help. Brush your hair, do it a new way. Get some new makeup and improve your technique!

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"Neither of us likes these nursery rhymes—shall we try him with some newspaper comics?"

BERNARD SHAW WOULD LIKE TO LIVE 100 YEARS MORE

BY RUSSELL LANDSTROM

George Bernard Shaw, who was 91 years' old last Saturday, believes that his chances of survival as a great man are pretty good, but he would like another 100 years or so to clinch literary immortality.

Sidestepping formal questions on the plea that his time is short—and worth good money—the greatest wit of the age said with mock resignation: "I have nothing to say that I have not already written. Read my books and leave me to die in peace."

By no means so withered and decrepit as he often makes out, the bearded, still fiery and playful Shaw fancies that he has withdrawn into a kind of retirement, referring inquiring newspapermen to his voluminous works and to the judgment of his best qualified contemporaries on them.

Fostering the illusion that he should be removed from his responsibilities "as fast as possible," Shaw remains a questioner of a passage in his new postscript to one of his greatest plays, "Back to Methuselah," released a year ago in the world's Classics library by the Oxford University Press:

"Physically I am failing; my senses, my locomotive powers, my memory are decaying at a rate which threatens to make a strid-brug of me if I persist in living; yet my mind still feels capable of growth, for my curiosity is keener than ever."

Gees Marching On

"My soul goes marching on; and, if the life force would give me a body as durable as my mind, and knew better how to feed and lodge and dress and behave, I might begin a political career as a junior civil servant and evolve into a capable cabinet minister in another hundred years or so."

At the moment, he feels, however, that "I am no more fit to rule millions of men than I am a boy of twelve."

Some of his admirers challenge his political views, quarrel with certain of his opinions on economics, and find flaws in the tapestry of his philosophy, based in large part upon earlier theories of creative evolu-

tion. But few question his standing as the greatest prose dramatist of his time, or deny the force of his personality which as a close friend said, has dominated his age as Voltaire's did in the eighteenth century.

Great Men

A London newspaper recently asked half a dozen men and women—five of them celebrities and the other a representative man-in-the-street—to nominate 10 figures who would still be talked about in 100 years' time. All but one placed Shaw well on the top of the list.

Asked for his own views, Shaw said that the "great men" most likely to live in history were Shakespeare, the Finnish composer, adding: "Great painters and composers may live on, but as for the political gentleman Winston Churchill, Josef Stalin, Field Marshal Jan Smuts and others, who have been listed on some panels—it would be rash to include them. I don't know and nobody else knows either."

Shaw said then, and has repeated since, that he would not make a list of any "great men" who might be remembered 100 or more years hence. "There is none anybody could give which would be worth reading. Some people undertake to do it. But then there's no question, however foolish, that somebody will not attempt to answer."

Several of Shaw's friends say that if he were to draw up any such list, Professor Albert Einstein probably would be on it, and perhaps Mahatma Gandhi. And they add: his own name doubtless would not be excluded.

Feeling Well

Though frail and at times uneasy on his thin legs, Shaw says he is "very well" and still able to withstand the shocks of life. When asked whether he would undertake a trip to New York to see the opening of Maurice Evans' production of "Man and Superman" in the autumn or perhaps take a personal on-the-spot hand in reported Hollywood versions of some of his plays, Shaw replied: "No more travelling for me. I am irremovable—fixed at Ayot St. Lawrence."

For years Shaw has lived in his big house in that picturesque little town in Hertfordshire, occasionally visiting London where he maintains an apartment.

He said that he intends to stay alive at least until he is 100, and for his scuffling would like to be around for much longer than that. Man, he reasons, dwelling upon a favourite theme, cannot hope to reach anything like intellectual maturity in less than 150 years.

Although he is a vegetarian, sociotaller and non-smoker, he does not attribute his long life to abstemiousness, asserting: "Man can live on anything. A diet of large cigars and plenty of whisky is no bar to old age and eminence."

Now Play

He remains punctilious in his daily habits, rising fairly early as a rule, retiring before the last summer twilight, and filling the hours between with writing, reading, short strolls and regular afternoon naps. He expects to have a new play performed at the famous Malvern Festival next year.

As fond of music as ever, he listens to the radio and to gramophone records, and in frequent bursts of high spirits himself sings and has long done in private, parts of operatic arias. Sometimes an intimate friend is privileged to hear him, and is told: "You see, even my voice is no penny whistle." Associated Press.



PILOT KEEPS PROMISE TO RESISTERS

"You're coming back to stay with me some time," Flight-Lieut. Dennis Hornsey promised the 25 French and Belgian civilians who smuggled him 400 miles to the Pyrenees after his Halifax had been shot down.

They nodded, smiling, but did not believe him.

But recently the 16 men and nine women who risked death to save him and 238 British airmen went to Richmond Town Hall.

There Mr. Hornsey, now back with his wife and two children at Balmoral Mansions, Twickenham, was waiting to greet them.

For the Mayor of Richmond had arranged with the Richmond branch of the R.A.F. Association to give the underground group "the jolly good time" Mr. Hornsey had promised.

Not understanding a word that was said but nodding cheerfully at everyone, was a 41-year-old Frenchman, Florentine Gorgez, of St. Jean de Luz, who received the O.B.E. for taking Hornsey and every man rescued by the "Comet Line" safely out of France.

HIMALAYAN RESEARCH

The largest Danish scientific expedition ever to study in Asia, led by Dr. Henning Harlund-Christensen, will leave in August or September for the Western Himalayan mountain region on a six-year mission of research.

Dr. Harlund-Christensen, who twice before has led expeditions to Tibet, Gobi and Manchuria, in making this announcement said he expected the expedition to result in making Copenhagen a future centre of scientific knowledge and research concerning the interior of Asia. Danish scientists did considerable work in Asia before the war.

The plan is to establish a base in the Western Himalayas and work from there into the western part of Tibet as soon as possible, another base will be established at Peiping, China. Explorers from these two bases will then work toward each other, planning to cover an area more than 2,000 miles.—Associated Press.

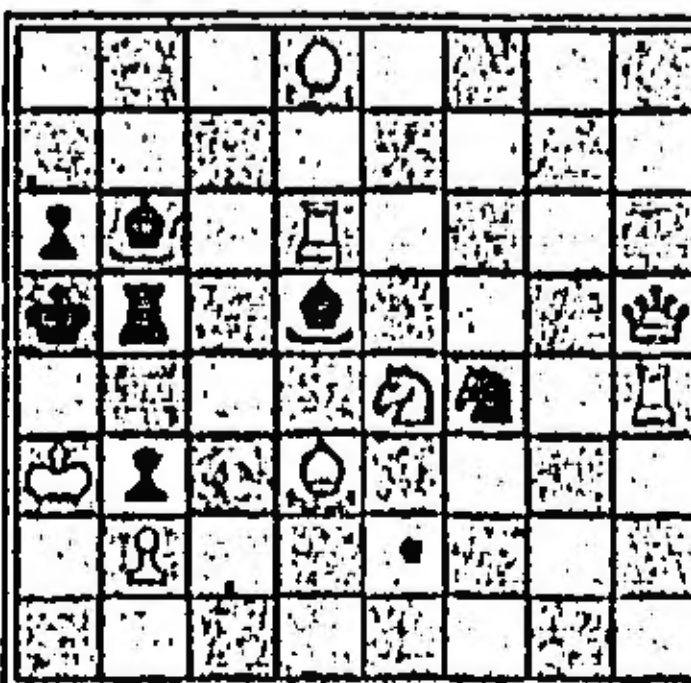
Rupert and the Young Imp—32



Going outside the gate Rupert watches Granny Gost's window anxiously. The young Imp scrambles quickly up the creeper and disappears inside the window-box. For some time nothing happens and then, one after another, green shoots appear over the edge, and within a few minutes large flowers open out and point the way to the sun. "It's perfectly marvellous," gasps Rupert. "I wonder if Granny Gost is watching or if she is asleep." ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

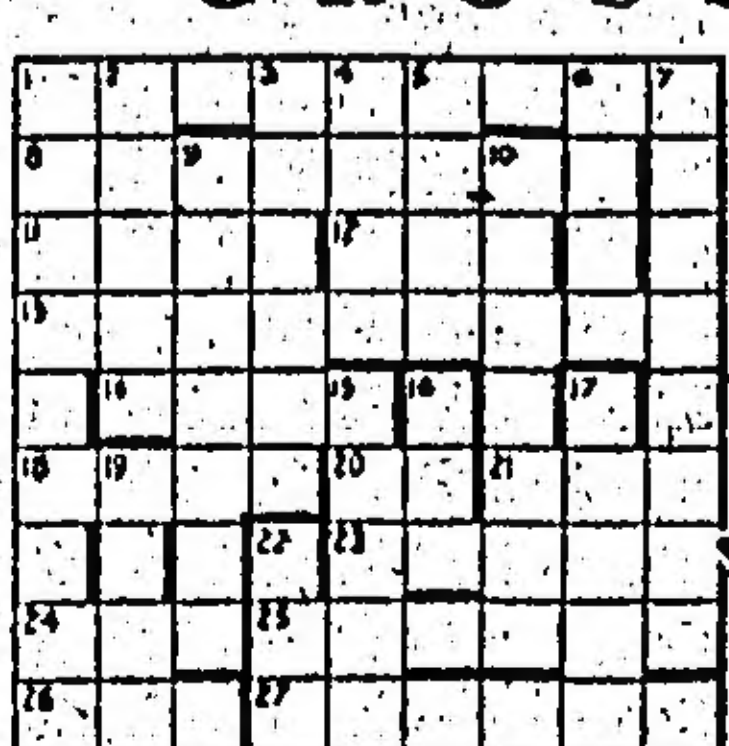
CHESS PROBLEM

By J. A. TANNER
Black, 7 pieces.



White, 8 pieces.
White to play and mate in two.
Solution to yesterday's problem:
1. R-R8. 2... K-K6, P-B3;
3. Q-R7; 4... K-K6, P-B3;
5. K-K6, P-B3; 6. K-K6, P-B3;
7. K-K6, P-B3; 8. K-K6, P-B3;
(ch)

CROSSWORD



23. Nothing upsets the game like this. (3)
24. Its portrayal should be Africa. (6)
25. Garden plot to South Africa. (6)
26. Do as B.M. for a change. (6)
27. Down:
1. Musical instrument. (9)
2. Bargain in and take possession by force. (10)
3. A hunting servant. (6)
4. Boatsman. (6)
5. Dance of the cotton spinner. (6)
6. Garrison commander. (7)
7. Fit to be moulded. (7)
8. The person who is likely to act as a go-between. (6)
9. Work of an artisan, and it may be sold. (6)
10. The piper's son. (3)
11. Natural god of the Philistines. (6)
12. The call of the umpire. (4)
13. Initially they do not see eye to eye with. (6)
14. Solution of yesterday's puzzle—across and down insurance policy. (10)
15. Bird to Peep. (6)
16. Bird to Peep. (6)
17. Bird to Peep. (6)
18. Bird to Peep. (6)
19. Bird to Peep. (6)
20. Bird to Peep. (6)
21. Bird to Peep. (6)
22. Bird to Peep. (6)
23. Bird to Peep. (6)
24. Bird to Peep. (6)
25. Bird to Peep. (6)
26. Bird to Peep. (6)
27. Bird to Peep. (6)
28. Bird to Peep. (6)
29. Bird to Peep. (6)
30. Bird to Peep. (6)
31. Bird to Peep. (6)
32. Bird to Peep. (6)

SHOWING TO-DAY **QUEEN'S** At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.



FREE GIFT! A bottle of 'HEARTBEAT PERFUME' (MADE BY SHULTON INCORPORATION—Sole Agents in H.K.—TONLEY & CO.) will be given away free at each performance, to the holder's ticket number corresponding to the ticket stub drawn. Results of each drawing will be posted in the theatre lobby!



Booking Hours: 11.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Daily

FINAL 4 SHOWS TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



JOAN LESLIE-JANIS PAIGE S. Z. SAKALL-PATTI BRADY
ALSO LATEST GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS
EROS RETURNS TO LONDON: BRITISH CAR SCORES
WORLD RECORD: U.S. TRAIN OF TO-MORROW: OIL
FROM KUWAIT: SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS, ETC., ETC.
TO-MORROW



SHOWING TO-DAY **OLYMPIA THEATRE** At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

Never before a story like it... of a love haunted by nameless evil... fighting to live in the hearts of two who struggled against the destroying fascination of



with Cornelia Otis Skinner
and Introducing Lovely Gail Russell
Directed by LEWIS ALLEN • Screen Play by Dodie Smith and Frank Partos

TO-DAY ONLY **Cathay** At 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

Errol FLYNN • Alexis SMITH • Alan HALE
In "GENTLEMAN JIM"
COMMENCING TO-MORROW



